

H.C. Burleigh Papers

Crouter

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES	
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FILE	11







## THE CROUTER FAMILY.

The first member of the Crouter Family in America was likely of Dutch or German origin. Family recollections indicate that he came to America as a British soldier, having likely been recruited in Germany. It is related that he served as a soldier of the British force under General Bradstreet which captured and destroyed Fort Frontenac, on the site of the present city of Kingston, in August, 1758. After the war he is said to have taken his discharge, following which he settled in Dutchess County, in New York State along the lower Hudson River.

Crouter is a very uncommon name in America in the eighteenth century. In the Census of New York State in the year 1790 there were only three families with this surname. Furthermore, all three were residents in the community of Haverstraw in Rockland County, forty-five miles south of Poughkeepsie, and twenty-five miles above New York City, being also on the western bank of the Hudson River. It is almost a certainty that these three families were closely related, and that one of them became the first of the family to settle in Canada. The names, as found in the census, were:

John Crouter, a wife, one son over sixteen years of age, two sons under sixteen, and one daughter.

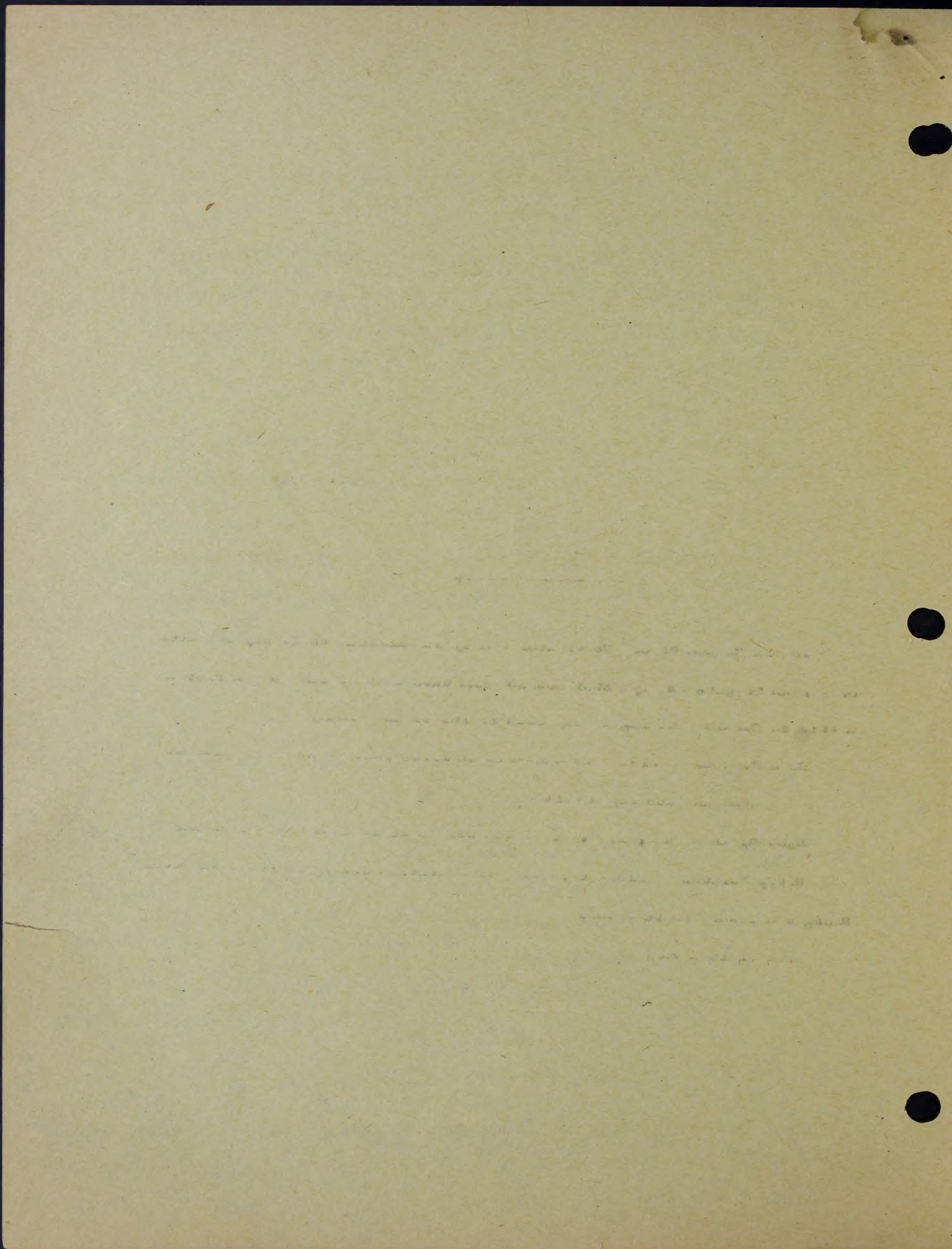
Mary Crouter, a widow, three sons under sixteen years, and a daughter.

Peter Crouter, a wife, two sons under sixteen years, and three daughters.

Further research in this area of New York State could well add much to our knowledge of this family.

The Peter Crouter, in the above list, with a wife and five children is undoubtedly the first of the family who came to the Bay of Quinte area in 1796, one child having been born in the interim. Peter settled in the first Concession of Ameliasburgh Township of Prince Edward County, evidently on Lot 88 in the first Concession, a short distance west of Rossmore. In the







following year, 1797, Peter made an application for a grant of land. This petition is recorded in these words:

To His Honour Peter Russell, Esquire, President Administering the Government of the Province of Upper Canada, &c., &c., &c., in Council----

The Petition of Peter Crouter of the Township of Ameliasburg, & County Prince Edward ----

Humbly sheweth ----

that your Petitioner has been in this Province since 1796---- & received no land he brought with him a wife and six Children and has taken the Oath ----  
Wherefor your Petitioner prays your Honour to be pleased to grant him and his family such quantity of the unlocated lands of this Province as your Honor may deem meet and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

(signed) Peter Crouter

Thurlow 28th Aug't 1797

Witness Alexander Chisholm J. P.

Petition of Peter Crouter

Rec'd 6 Nov. '97 A. C.

Read 13 Nov. '97

Granted for 200 As. JE

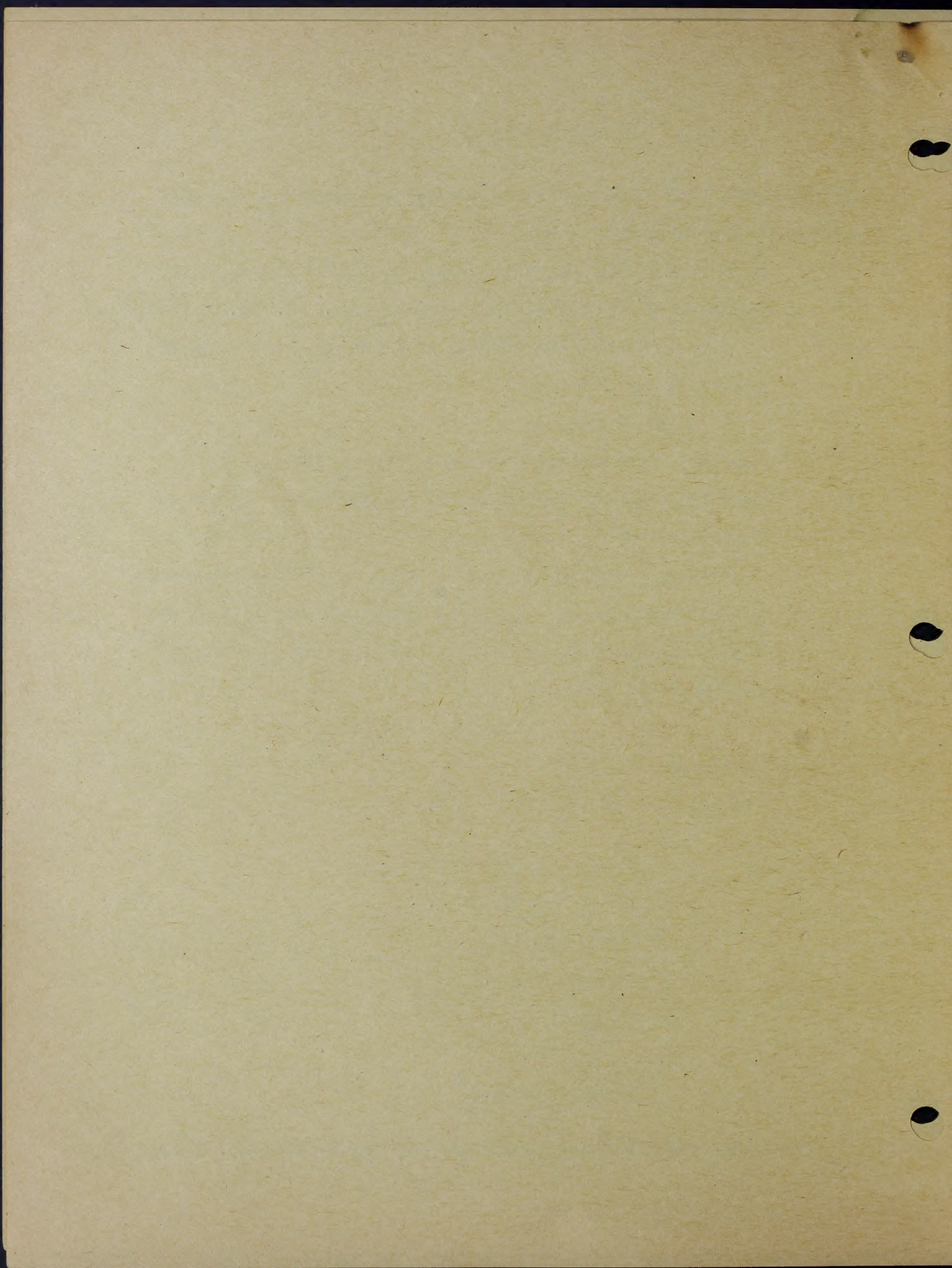
Confirmed

P.R.

Warrant same day.

Peter Crouter drew this two hundred acres of land in Haldimand. Although







Peter, by the acceptance of the grant, had assumed additional responsibilities, he did not dispose of the homestead recently obtained by purchase in the Township of Meliasburgh. He had a good wife and a growing family. Their future was his responsibility. But there were added responsibilities. Peter had now become owner of two pieces of land, thirty five miles apart as the crow flies--the home lot in Meliasburgh, on the south shore of the Bay of Quinte, and the two hundred acres in the hinterlands of Haldimand Township, north of the village of Grafton. Before Crown Grants could be issued to him, he had to have built a habitable house on each lot and to have cleared and fenced five acres of land for every hundred acres. In addition, he was required to serve as a member of the local militia, since he was then between the ages of 16 and 60.

Life in the new land was not easy. Work from dawn to dark was the order of the day; necessities were difficult to find; luxuries were unknown; roads had yet to come, since only narrow pathways led along the shoreline from farm to farm. As the years passed, conditions improved and these pioneers, by their industry and perseverance, laid the foundation for much of our present-day comforts. Thus, they merit our respect.

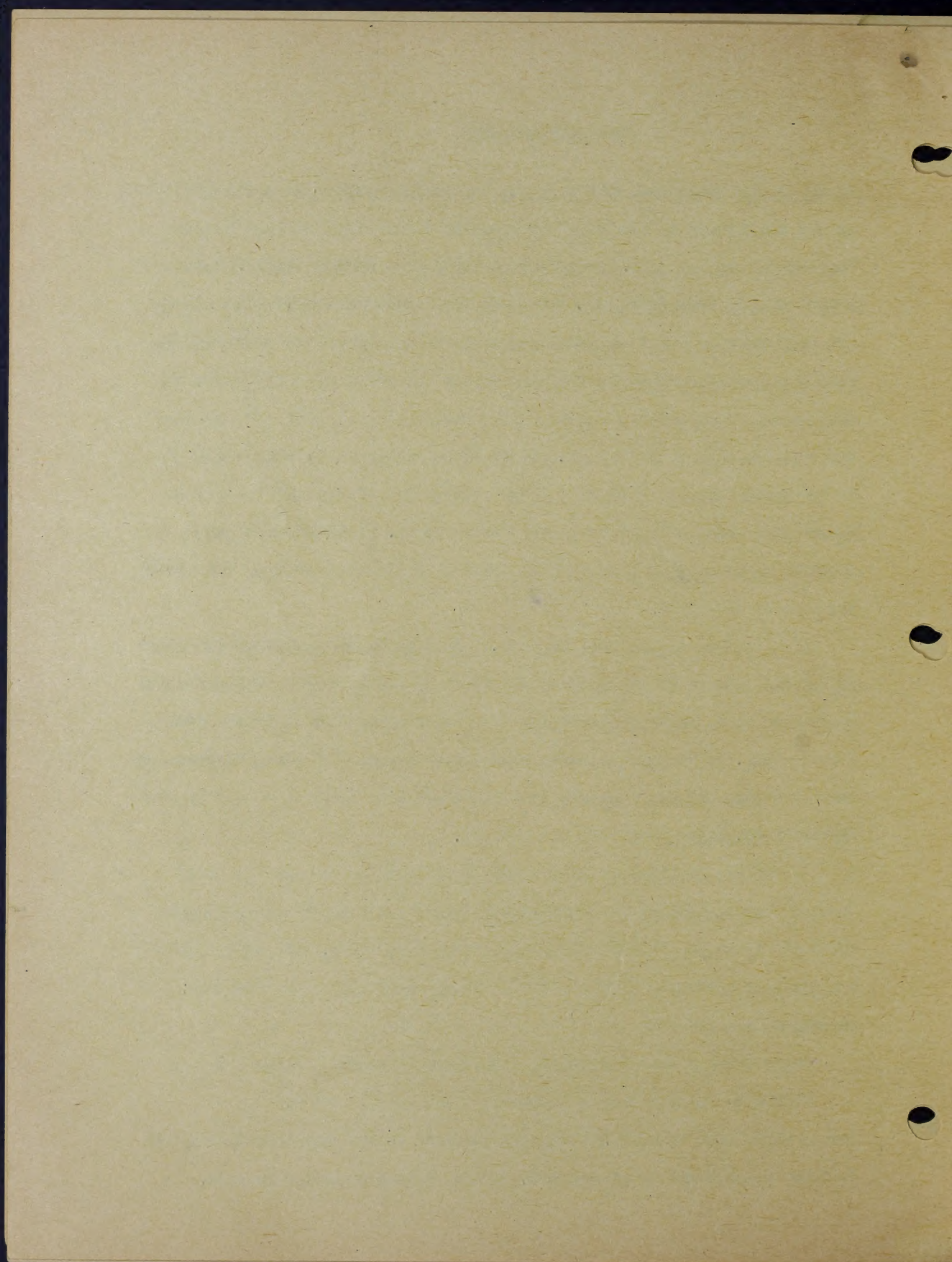
An article in "Pioneer Life On The Bay Of Quinte" states that Peter Crouter died in 1839 in his eighty-fourth year; and that his wife, formerly Catherine Stephens, died in 1842, aged eighty-four years. This statement does not agree with their gravestone in the Albany Cemetery, in Meliasburgh. The wording on the stone is

Peter Crouter died 2 November, 1844, aged 82 years, 3 months, 8 days

Catherine Crouter died 26 November, 1845, aged 84 years.

One of these must be right. I can only say that errors have been found, both in bible records and on gravestones. Little matters at this late date.







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These are the children of Peter and Catherine Crouter, most of whom were born in New York State, before the emigration to the Bay of Quinte District.

I. ANTHONY, born in 1791, died in 1855; married Mary Brickman, born in 1794, died in 1869. They resided in Sidney Township, Hastings County.

Their children were

1. Abram L., born in 1817, and resided, in 1878, on lots 21 & 22, in

Concession 3, of Sidney. *mar Elizabeth Eliza German. One son,*

2. Catherine.

*Albert Louis Edgerton, b. 15 Sept. 1846*

*d. 26 June, 1925 (see Our Register V 2. No 2*

3. Ann.

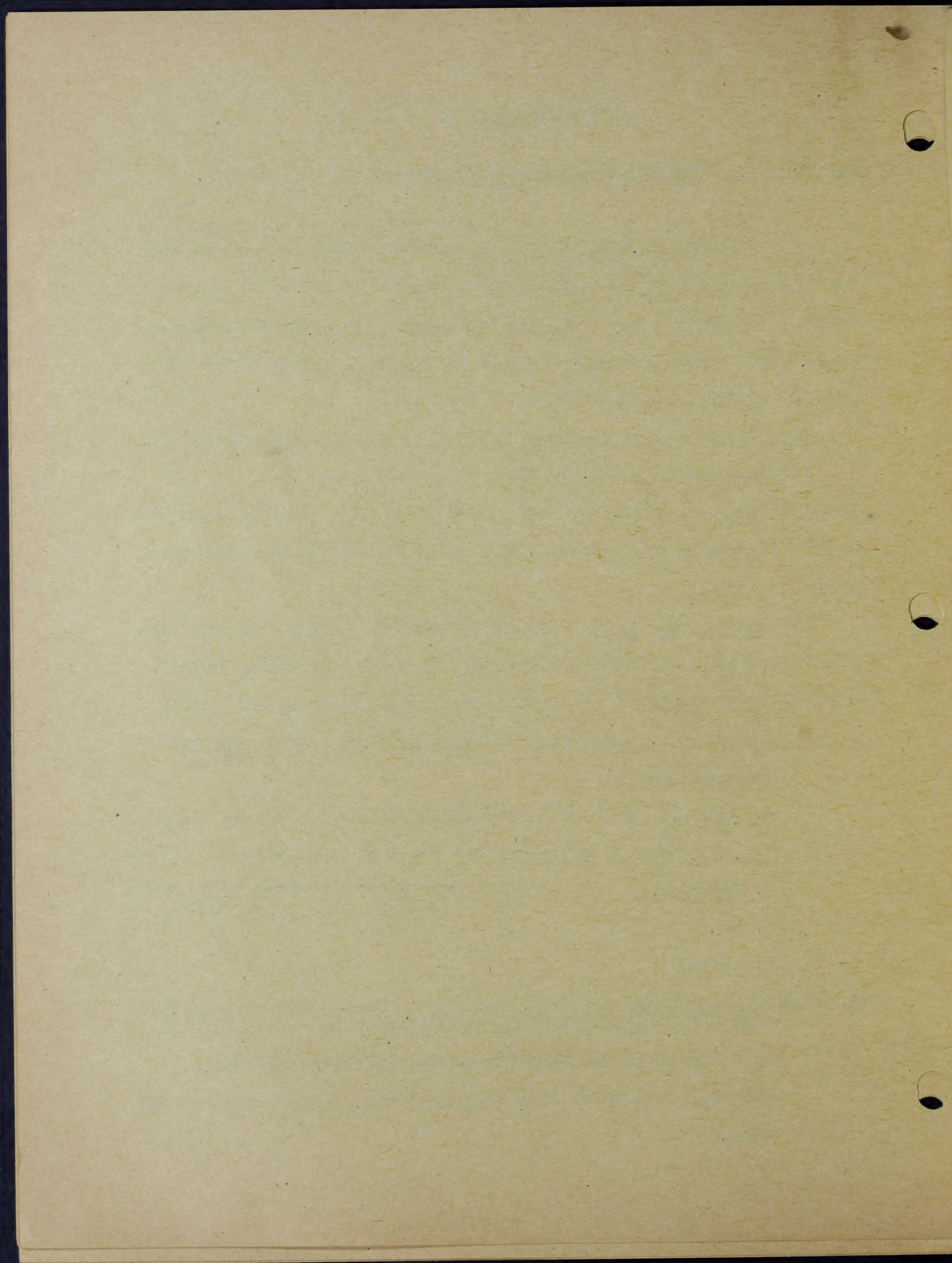
4. Amanda.

II. David, born in 1791, died in 1867. He served in the War of 1812, and, after settled in Haldimand Township, Northumberland County, very likely

on the lot which his father had received in 1797. He was twice

married, 1st to Phoebe Rightmyer, nee Alison. Second wife's name not known.







Their children (David & Phoebe) were

1. Benjamin A., born in 1819, and residing on Lot 9, Concession 8, Brighton Township in 1878.
2. Stephen.
3. Darius, born in 1827, resided on Lot 4, Concession 7, farmer, and Reeve of the Township of Brighton in 1878.
4. Catherine.

III. Peter, married Clarissa Benton, and settled in Murray Township, where he died in 1866.

His children were

1. David.
2. Nelson.
3. Peter S.
4. Egbert.
5. Miranda.

IV. Abraham, married Maria Baker, and settled in Waldimand Township.

His children were

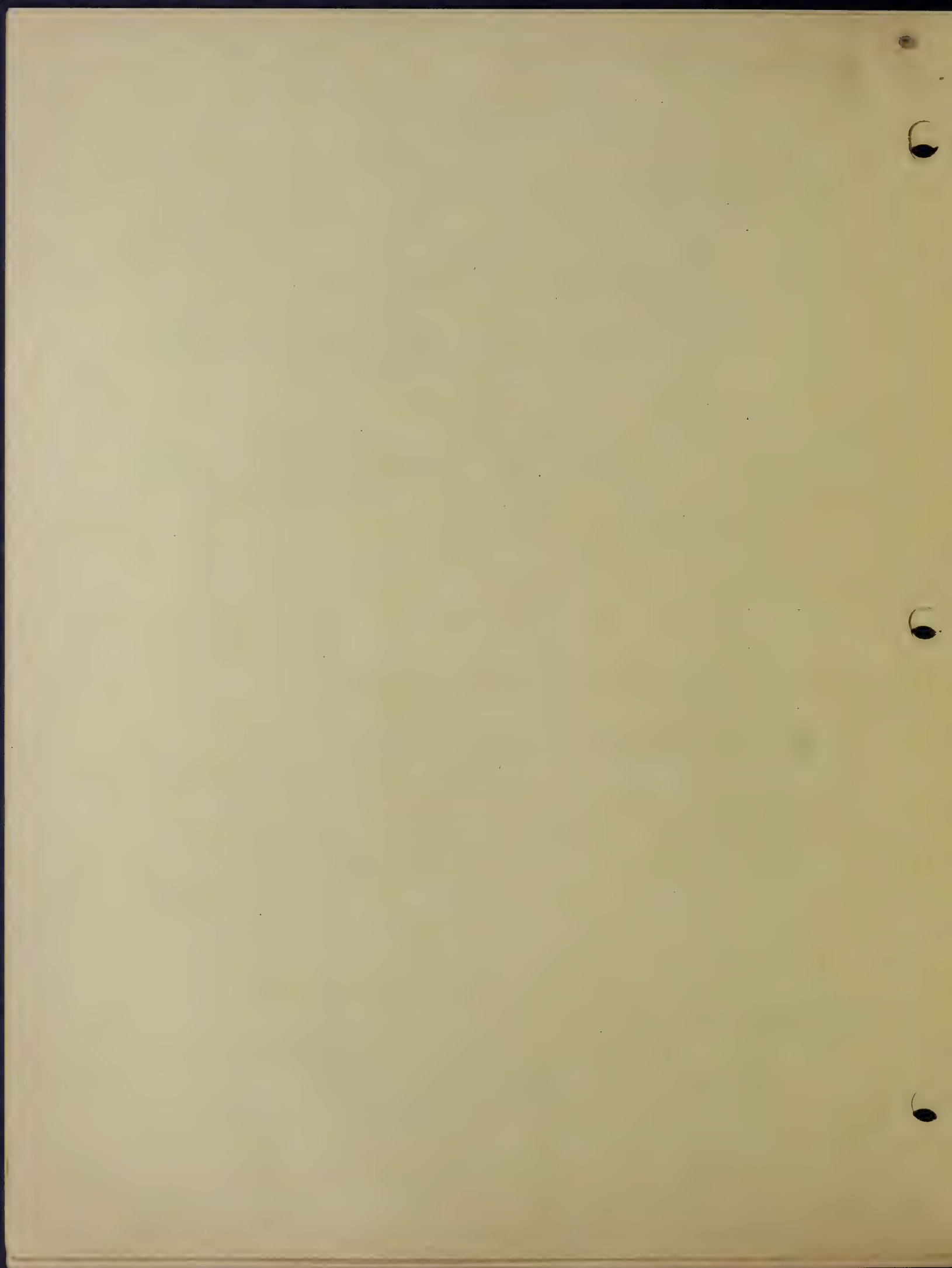
1. John W.
2. James.
3. Abram.
4. Hannah.
5. Jane.

V. Edward (see below).

VI. Catherine, married George Cunningham, and settled in Ameliasburgh.

1. Henry. (Children Cunningham.)
2. James.
3. George.







4. Thomas.

5. Jane.

6. Elizabeth.

VII. Maria, married Godfrey Maybee, and settled in Brock Township.

Their children (Maybee) were

1. Peter.

2. Tobias.

3. Fisher.

VIII. Jane, married James Andrews, and settled finally in the West.

IX. Olive, married, first, Mr. Brickman; and 2nd, Mr. Denton. They settled in Ameliasburgh.

Children by first marriage (Brickman) were

1. Peter.

2. Henry.

Children by 2nd marriage (Denton) were

3. William.

4. Theresa.

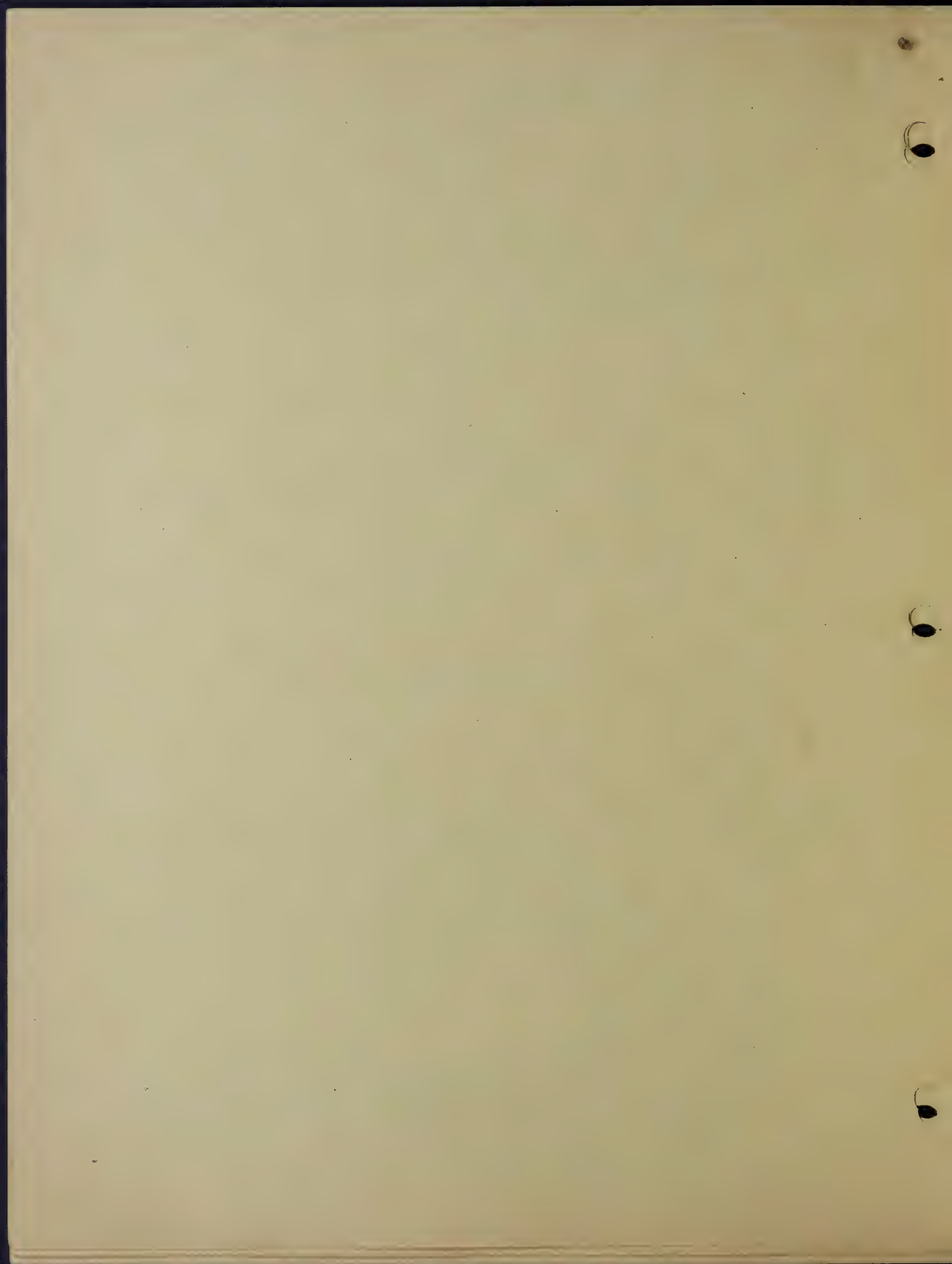
V. Edward, fifth son of Peter and Catherine, died in 1873, aged 72 years, 6 months, and lies buried in Albury Cemetery, Ameliasburgh Township. He married Hannah Baker, who died in 1843. Her place of burial is unknown or unrecorded. He settled on the home farm in Ameliasburgh, being the youngest son.

Their children were

1. Abraham (see below).

2. James, born in 1830; died in 1909. He married Agnes Babcock, who was born in 1837, and died in 1913. They settled in Trenton, Sidney Township.







Their children (Grouter) were

a. Jane, married William Bonter, and settled in Trenton.

Children (Bonter) were

I. Florence.

II. Fred.

III. Arthur.

b. George H., married Floria Bapy, and settled in Michigan.

Their children (Grouter) were

I. Ethel.

II. Henry.

III. Ross.

IV. Raymond.

V. Hazel.

c. Maudie, married Thomas Dine, and settled in Trenton.

Child

I. Annie Dine.

d. Emma, unmarried.

3. Peter, married Caroline Maybee, and settled in Gladstone, Man.

Their children were

a. Edward.

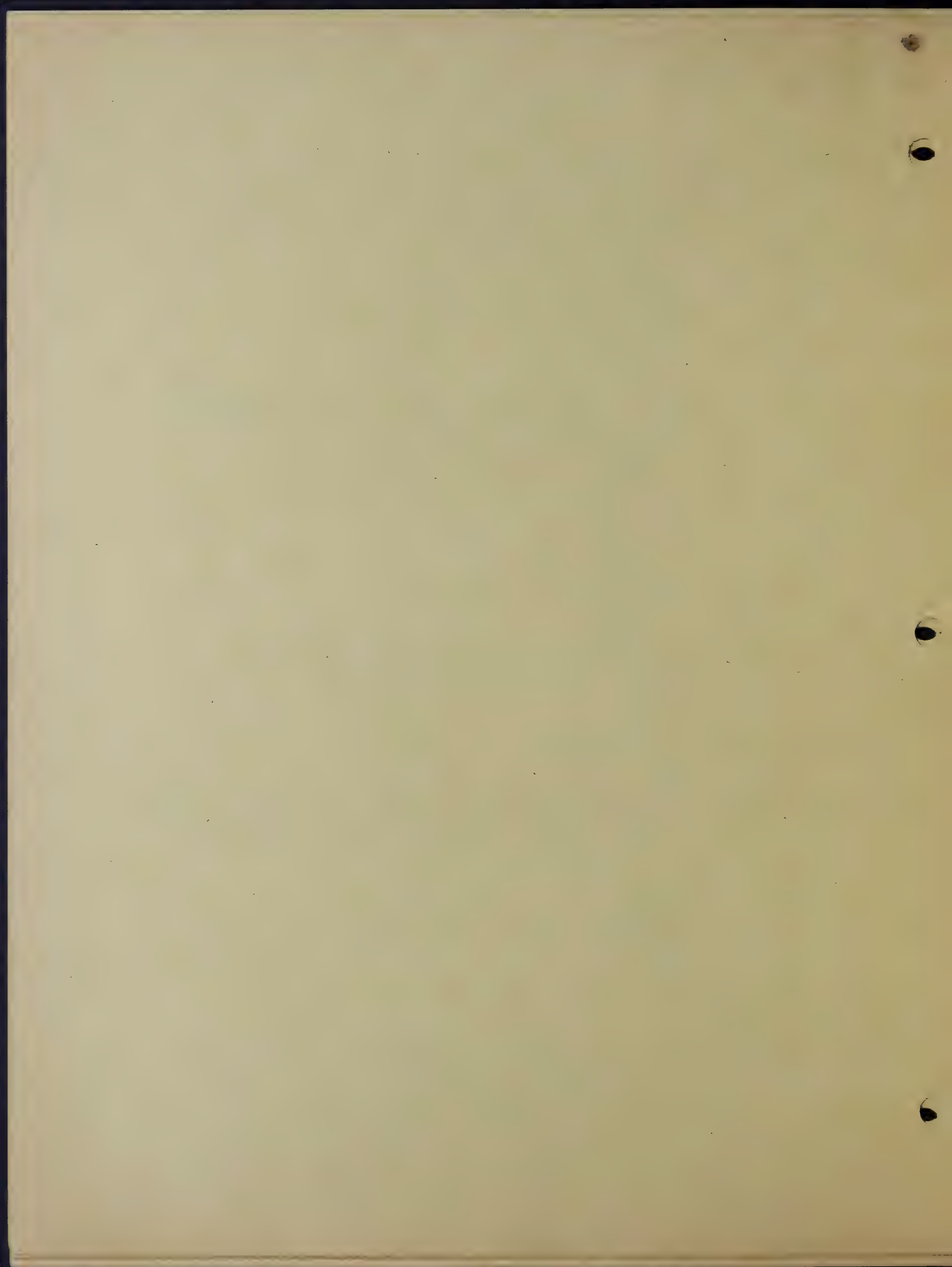
b. Elizabeth.

c. Annie.

d. Mary.

4. Anthony, born in 1834, died in 1906, married Charity Camwright, born in 1840, died in 1882. Both are buried in Albury Cemetery. They settled in Ameliasburgh, where, in 1878, he occupied part of lots 79 and 80 in Concession. He was listed as a farmer and tinsmith.







Their children were

a. Alice, married McLean Ellis, and settled in Trenton.

Their children were (Ellis)

I. Charles.

II. Alice.

III. Walter.

IV. Harry.

b. Sarah, married Solomon Weeks, and settled in Rochester, N. Y.

Their children were (Weeks)

I. Lorne E.

II. Charles W.

III. Pearl A.

IV. Floid.

c. Mary, married Isaac Weeks, and settled in Chicago, Ill.

Their children were (Weeks)

I. Percy I.

II. Arthur.

d. Edward, married Emma L. C. Robinson, and settled in Trenton.

Their children (Grouter) were

I. Willie.

II. Eva.

e. Frank E., married Lillie E. Doieg, and settled in Trenton.

Their children (Grouter) were

I. Ernest A.

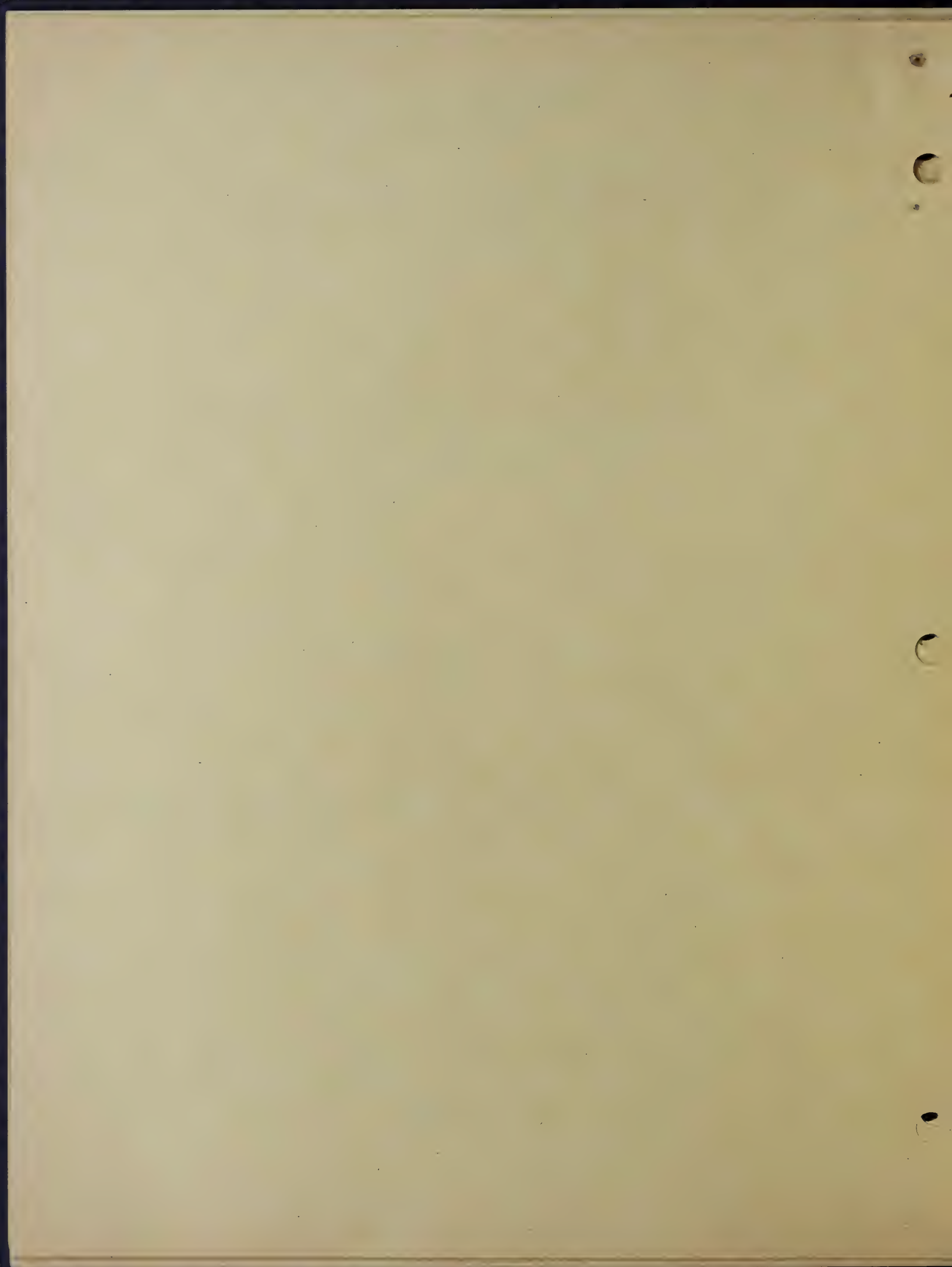
f. Maggie, married Marshall Furnia, and settled in Trenton.

Their children (Furnia) were

I. Edward.

II. Harry.

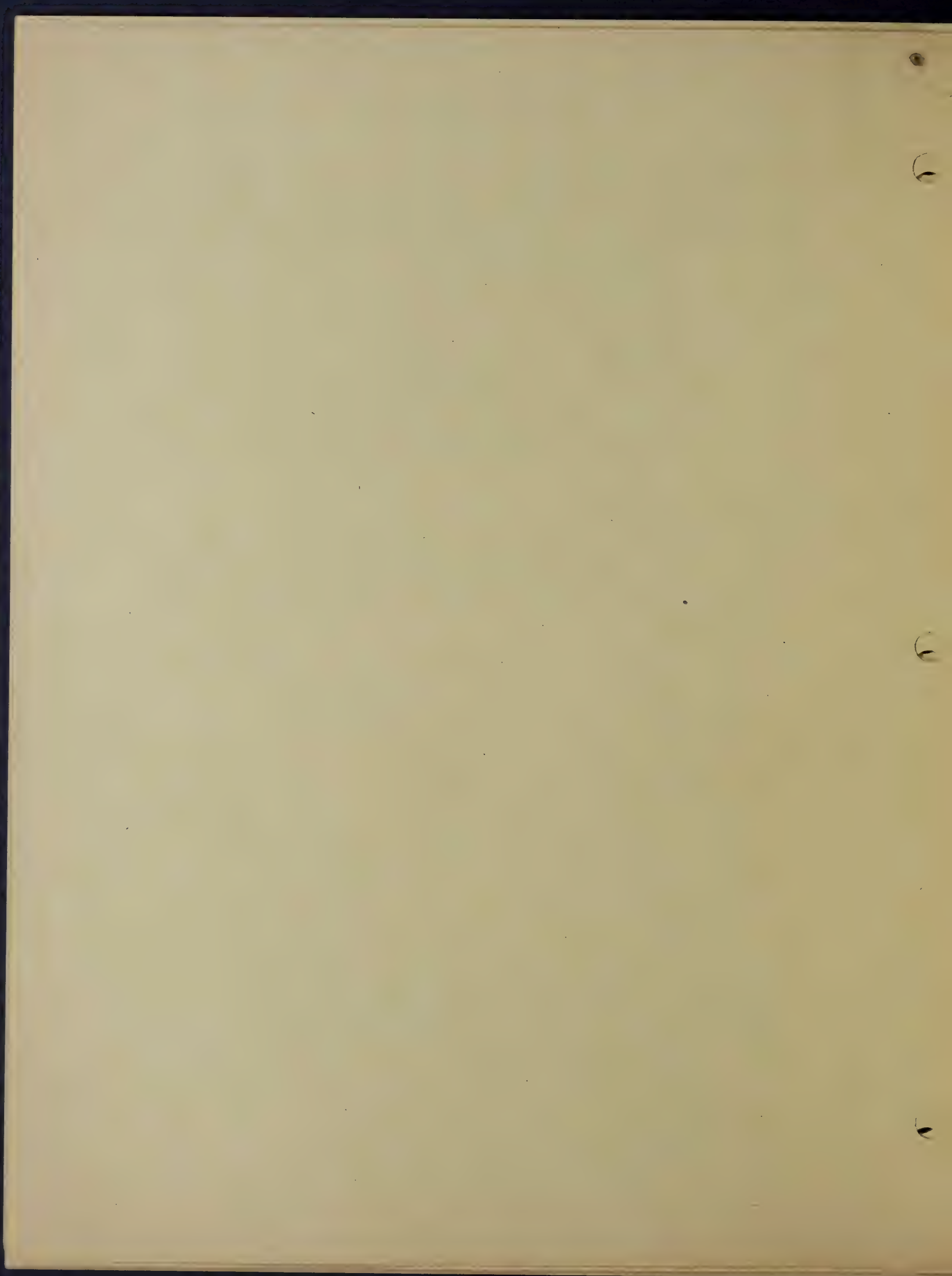






- g. Grace, died young.
- h. Annie, married William Clark, and settled in Toronto.  
Their children (Clark) were
  - I. Verman.
  - II. Mabel.
- i. John, died aged 21 years, unmarried.
- j. Charity E., married James Doieg, and settled in Trenton.  
Their children (Doieg) were
  - I. James H.
  - II. Frank E.
- 5. Maria, married Levi Maxim, and settled in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.  
Their children (Maxim) were
  - a. Matilda.
  - b. Lizzie.
  - c. Jane.
  - d. Ella.
  - e. Catherine.
  - f. Edward.
  - g. Gordon.
  - h. Anthony.
  - i. Levi.
- 6. Catherine, unmarried.
- 7. Sarah, married Elisha Baker, and settled in Trenton.  
Children (Baker) were
  - a. James.
  - b. Ella.
  - c. William.







I. Abraham Grouter (see page 6), son of Edward, and grandson of Peter Grouter the pioneer, was born on the home farm in Ameliasburgh in 1821-2, and died there in 1910. His wife was Sarah A. Weese, who was born in 1828, and died in 1916. They lie buried in Albury Cemetery, in Ameliasburgh, on the south shore of the Bay of Quinte. In 1878, Abraham owned and resided on 80 acres, being part of Lot 79, Concession 1, likely a part of the land upon which his grandfather first settled in 1796. On the 80 acres immediately west, being parts of Lots 79 and 80, dwelt his brother, Anthony.

Their children (Grouter) were

1. John. He is likely the John E., who is buried in Albury Cemetery, with members of his family, as shown by the following gravestone records

John E(dward?), 1841-1901.

Hannah E. Weese, his wife, 1851-1928.

Beatrice Grouter, 1876-1917.

Percy Grouter, 1875-1954.

Hetta May Weese, his wife, 1874-1921.

Lewis Wilfred McGutcheon, 1887-

Etta Grouter, his wife, 1884-1958.

In a Directory of Ameliasburgh, in 1904, Mrs. J. and Percy Grouter were residing on Lots 88 & 89 in the 1st Concession. This may be an error, and should have been Lots 78 & 79, the Grouter home farm.

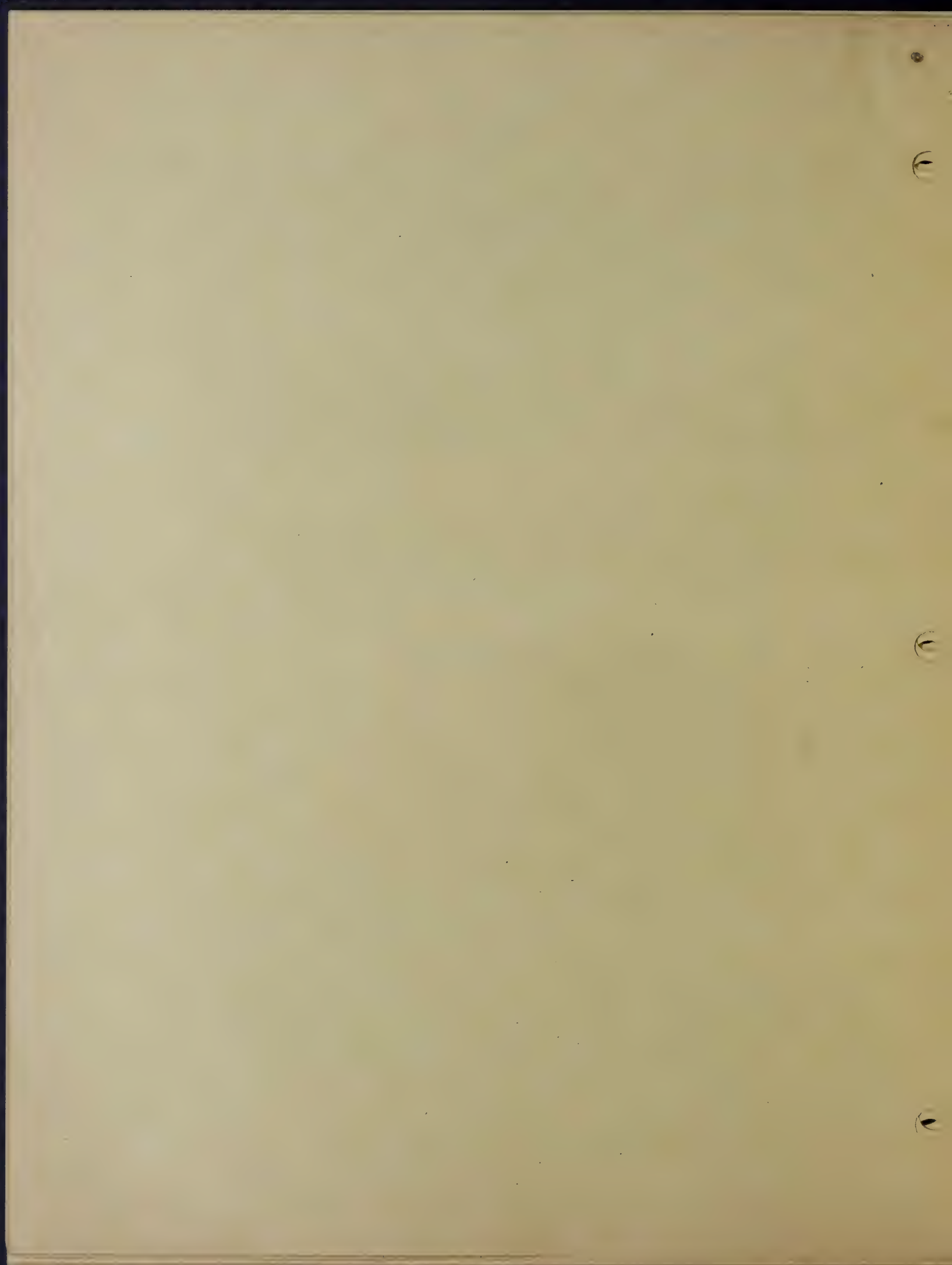
2. Peter E., born in 1851, died in 1926; married Sarah E. L. DeLong.

She born in 1856, died in 1907. Both lie buried in Albury Cemetery, Ameliasburgh Township.

One known child

1. Aubrey, of Oshawa.







3. David.

1. a son Harry lives in Oshawa.

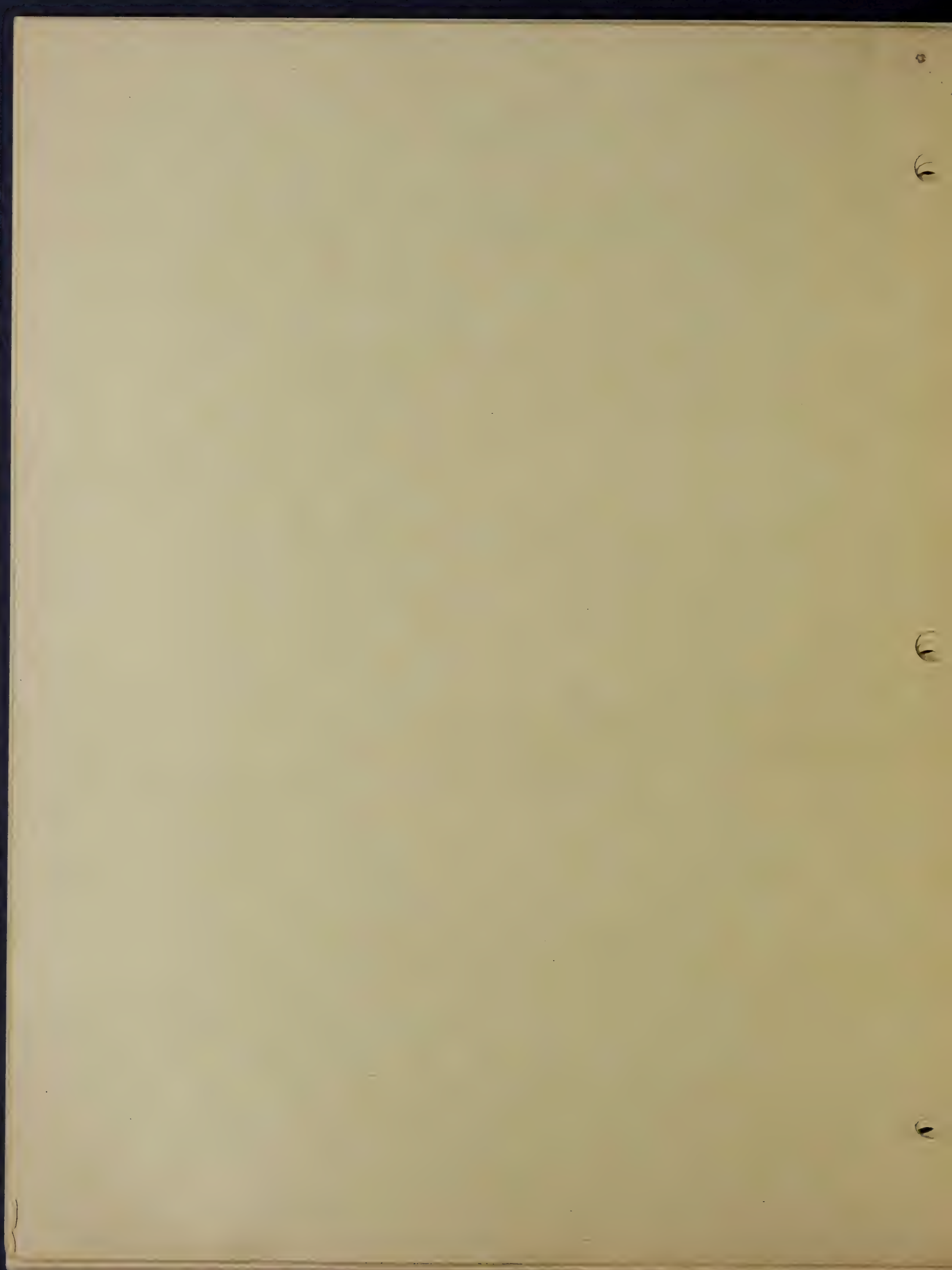
4. Francis.

5. Mary.

6. Annie.

7. Sophronia.







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Peter Crutter, a member of the King's Rangers.

Who was he?

Life in the new land was not easy. Work from dawn to dark was the order of the day; necessities were difficult to find; luxuries were unknown; roads were yet to come, since only narrow pathways led along the shoreline from farm to farm. As the years passed, conditions improved, and these pioneers, by their industry and perseverance, laid the foundation for much of our present



Nedon Madeline  
| Poulin

Robert Anne Bonne  
| of England

Mark Huber = 28.9.1649 Suzanne Belfaire

Malheur = Calthe Goulet Joseph = Anne Picard.  
11.8.1652

Joseph IV Albanase = 1706 29.2 Marie Desborme

> 9.4.1731

Cyprien  
Charles

| & Clement  
| & Marie Dupre  
| 14.5.1707

Joseph

1.2.1741

= 12.11.1764 hach.

Mame Crolier

du. Bernard &

Calthe Turchon



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